

NEWSLETTER

WWW.MTPLEASANT.CHURCH

2024 IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER

There's something powerful about the start of a new year.

Perhaps you're looking forward to something exciting. Maybe last year was difficult, and you're just glad it's over. For all of us, the New Year offers a chance for something better.

Lots of people have advice for you to make the most of the New Year. They may suggest a new diet, a new exercise plan, new career path, new budget, or new relationships, but there's something else we should consider. Something that includes all those areas of our lives and more.

How can you start the New Year well? Read your Bible. It's as simple as that.

The goal isn't just to read some verses and walk back into the rest of your life unaffected. The goal of reading your Bible should be to know God better and do what He says.

What's so important about an old book like the Bible? How will the Bible change our year?

All Scripture is inspired by God, and He communicates His truth and love through its words (2 Timothy 3:16-17). By reading the Bible, we're learning Jesus is God who came to rescue us. He gives us what we need to live our lives with purpose and meaningful connections.

When we experience the truth revealed in Scripture, we're given the opportunity to change in some way. Since the Bible is full of truth, we have so many things to learn and ways to grow.

Scripture is a powerful tool God can use throughout our lives. Even if you've read the Bible for most of your life, there is always more to learn. Each time we open the Bible, God shows us something new and leads us further than we've been before.

Jesus wants us to have a better New Year than we want for ourselves. The best way to discover what He has in store for us is to listen to Him and do what He says. That process begins with the instructions He's already given us in Scripture.

As you move forward into this year, walk with Jesus by reading the Bible and obeying Him. Scripture itself promises that God's words do not return to Him empty, but accomplishes what He desires (Isaiah 55:8-11).

Do you want to see how much your New Year and your life can be changed by God? Read your Bible and follow Jesus, step by step.

Read your Bible... there is some pretty good stuff in there,

Pastor Chris

*Couple suggestions for where to start: Luke, James, Proverbs...



COFFEE WITH STARBUCK

4th Thursday of each month. Our grief group is a gathering of a caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences. You don't have to go through the grieving process alone. **Thursday, January 25 @ 10am**

SINGLES MINISTRY

We meet on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month. We encourage all singles in the church and our community to join us!

- January 7 | 6pm
- January 21 | 6pm



THURSDAY, JANUARY 4

Connection Group lunch at MTP | 11:30 AM

Conection Group LUNCHEON

Calling all Retirees!

Shepherds Staff

Blessings to all our Mt. Pleasant brothers and sisters in Christ from your elder team.

It is a new year and we pray that 2024 is a great one for you and your family. It was awesome to see a packed house for the Christmas eve services, and we hope the holiday season helped everyone to focus on Jesus!

We are very excited about the launch of our new homeschool ministry! We have around 40 kids from 21 families taking part this semester, we are looking forward to what God has in store for this ministry in the coming years.

As we begin 2024, we say goodbye to Joe Hayworth, Eric Hilton and Bo Sink as part of our Elder team and thank them for their servant hearts.

We welcome Timmy Hege, Tommy McDevitt and Alex Sprinkle to the team and look forward to what God has in store for them.

"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, His mercies never come to an end, they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

Lamentations 3:22-23

Please reach out to us in person, via email or phone.

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Tommy McDevitt	donaldmcdevitt@gmail.com	336-442-3512
Jay Payne	jpayne@jcgreenandsons.com	336-847-5889
Alex Sprinkle	alex.sprinkle@highpointnc.gov	336-847-7728
Jon Sloan	jonathans@cityofwsfire.org	336-848-2907
Greg York	yorkg1@gmail.com	336-848-8651



Happy New Year! We can't wait to get started on a new year of ministry with you and your family.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

YOUTH GROUP | 7, 21, 28 | 5 - 7:30P

Our Sunday evening programming with games, a shared meal, music, a message, and small group time.

YOUTH BREAKFAST | WEDNESDAYS | 7A

Wednesday mornings, when Davidson County Schools have classes. Students 5th-12th grade enjoy breakfast & devotion.

FAMILY NIGHT | 10, 17, 24, 31 | 5:30P - 7:30P

Family Night is a time to enjoy a meal and fellowship as a family before breaking off into classes. This season we'll be digging into The Chosen Season 3 Bible Study.

YOUTH & PARENT SPRING MEETING | JAN 7 | 5 - 7:30P

This meeting is for ALL PARENTS & YOUTH, 5th-12th grade. We'll review some of our youth and fifthgrade structure along with our Winter/Spring calendar. You don't want to miss this event either new to MTP or old.

ENGAGE IN EVERYDAY MOMENTS TOGETHER



Morning Time

Had a rough start to the day—kids on edge, running late, etc.? Or maybe a heated conversation the night before carried over to a new day? It happens. Make some time today for apologies and reconciliation.



Meal Time

At a meal this week, share about a time when someone said or did something to you that was difficult to forgive, and how you handled it.



Their Time

When your teen wants to talk, be mindful of your facial expression.



Bed Time

Pray for your teen (and for you) to heal from past wounds in healthy ways—spiritually, emotionally, mentally.



WHAT WE'RE TEACHING



NOT YET: A 4-WEEK STUDY FROM THE OLD & NEW TESTAMENTS ON **IDENTITY**

SERIES OVERVIEW:

Does life ever feel like a never-ending waiting game? Like you're always waiting to get a little older, to gain a little more freedom, or to find a little more clarity about your future? When you think about the person you're becoming and what your future holds, do you ever just want to skip ahead in your story to see how it all turns out, who you'll become, what you'll do, or what kind of difference you'll make? In this four-week series, we'll talk about all the questions, fear, frustration, and excitement that thinking about our futures can bring. As we explore passages from Ecclesiastes, Revelation, and more, we'll discover four truths about what God has in store for us: we're all a work in progress, your purpose is to be like Jesus, God's plans for you are good, and your next step is to get closer to God.





Sharing God's love, one child at a time!!!

What's Happening

1/1-Happy New Year
1/9-Kids Klub
committee meeting
1/10-Family Night
Begins
1/14-Family Fun Day
bowling
1/17-Family Night
1/24-Family Night

1/31-Family Night





Register @ https://www.mtpleasant.church/kids/



Instead of New Year's resolutions lets do our best to be kinder, listen more, share our toys, make new friends, be respectful, love more, and most of all share God's love with others. Let's go out in our community as Christ followers and tell everyone about Jesus. Let's promise each other to show more compassion and love and to forgive as God has forgiven us. As we approach this New Year, I challenge each of you to not make resolutions you may not can keep. Instead to make a promise to God and your family that I will share His love in all that I do, in all that I am and with everyone. In a world that's broken let us be the light to everyone we meet. Let's go out and share the unfailing love of Jesus.

I am so thankful for each and every one of you and I can't wait to see what God has in store for our church. To all the volunteers, parents and kids you will never know the love I have for each of you and how blessed I am because of you. Praying this year is the best yet and that God continues to bless and grow our church and church family. With expectant hearts I can't wait to see what God is going to do next.

I wish you all a Very Happy New Year and I love you all Mrs. Jennifer-Director of Children's Ministry



January 4th @ 6:30 pm

Teacher and Parent/Student Orientations

January 9th

First Day of Spring 2024 Classes First Day of Mom's Bible Study and Preschool Bible Study

January 16th @ 7 pm

Transcript Workshop





Mothers and **Preschoolers** Bible Study

Returning Tuesday, January 9th @ 9:30 am

Register here:





TRANSCRIPT WORKSHOP

Tuesday, January 16th @ 7 pm

Mt. Pleasant Church Sanctuary 6516 Old Greensboro Rd. **Thomasville**









Co-op and Teacher Interest

The Point, Mt. Pleasant Church's Homeschool Co-op, will continue classes for the 2024-25 academic year, and we need YOU!

To express interest in attending or teaching, please go to mtpleasant.church/homeschool or use the QR code here:

























fellowship

MTP Women's Group

The MTP Women met for a 6:00 covered dish Christmas meeting on Monday, December 18. Food items were brought for the Family we adopted for Christmas and our Blessing Box gifts were for Miles Stuckensnider and his family. Four ministries will receive a donation as we use most of the remaining money in our treasury to finish the mission plans for the year.

Jane Mendenhall was given the Woman of the Year award, and we enjoyed fellowship and tested our skill with unscrambling Christmas words. Some of us didn't do very well while a few got almost all of them. It was a fun evening as we celebrated the Christ child and the man He became.

The January meeting will be Monday, January 22, 2024 (wow, it is hard to believe we are almost to 2024!), at 6:30 pm. We will have a soup and sandwich meal and our Mission Project will be Hospital Snacks. We will also do a Blessing Box and will make plans for the 2024 year.

We have had some new people join us in the last few months and would love to have you join us as well. We have a devotional and prayer time, but we also focus on being a mission / service organization . . . and we also have fun as we fellowship together and work on our projects.

Wishing you the wonder of Christmas as we celebrate Christ birth and the Gace, Peace and Love he offers. Wishing the best of what a relationship with Christ and "His family" offers in 2024.

MTP Men's Group

Hard to believe that 2023 is coming to an end. It has been an active year for Mt. Pleasant Men's Group.

A couple of service projects we helped with, meals for CCM in Thomasville and of course the Wildlife banquet. We are looking forward to a better year this year. Come and join us with your great ideas for expanding our ministry. We meet for breakfast, fellowship and guest speakers on the second Sunday of the month.

So come join us January 14 at 0700.

Thank you for your support and love for our Angel Tree!

A huge shout out to everyone that helped make the Angel tree project a huge success. We were able to provide gifts to 106 children from our community.









Mission Committee

The Mission Committee closed 2023 by sending an end-of-the-year gift to Abraham Thomas and Agape Royal Ministries.

The \$550 check is sealed with prayers, prayers for the missionaries' safety and prayers they will see continued success in fulfilling the Great Commission: "Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matthew 28: 19-20).

Despite increased persecution in 2023, Agape Royal Ministries expanded its church planting initiatives in Nepal with 20 churches and in Sri Lanka with eight churches. Moreover, Logos College Extension began in Kenya with a program to equip church planters by providing a certificate course in two years.

For more than 40 years missionary Abraham Thomas has focused on fulfilling Jesus' command to take the Gospel to the world. Mt. Pleasant Church has supported his efforts with prayers and financial gifts for more than 15 years.

"What a great God we serve!" Rev. Thomas said in a December email to Tina Grubbs, outgoing chairwoman of Mt. Pleasant's Mission Committee. "2023 brought severe challenges that are inexplicable, but they deepened our faith and strengthened our prayer life. No one can thwart God's plans."

He appreciates seeing God at work — "To God be the glory!" — and his ministry's relationship with Mt. Pleasant.

"THANK YOU, very much for your partnership in ministry," he said.

Rev. Thomas is the director of Agape Royal Ministries, with a field office in India. The ministry operates in partnership with Global Compassion, based in Valparaiso, Indiana. Rev. Thomas founded the Agape organization in 1993 in part because he recognized more needed to be done to nurture newly saved believers to grow into knowledgeable disciples.

Agape's objective is "to reach the unreached through preaching the gospel, planting churches, and engaging in compassion ministries," Rev. Thomas said last spring.

He asks Mt. Pleasant Church to join him in prayer for:

- Upcoming events: Logos Extension classes in February; Logos College of Theology Mission Conference and graduation in March, Sri Lanka visit in March, Logos Summer Ministry March April and youth camps and vacation Bible schools in April;
- Church plants in North India which face severe persecution:
- Major outreach ministries all over India in summer.

Finally, the Mission Committee is thankful for all who helped with its outreach projects in 2023. The successful year was possible only because of the church's support.

January Birthdays

- 2 Taylor Parks
- 3 Danielle Cecil, Kathryn Binkley, Chase Owens
- 4 Sean Taylor, Ken Woempner
- 5 Bobby Miller, Greg Moore
- 6 Diannah Kearns, Kevan Hedgecock
- 7 Anna Kennedy
- 9 Stacey Blackwood, J Mark Hilton, Ryan Hilton
- 10 Kaci Hedgecock
- 11 Colson Sink
- 12 Brynlee Hall, Bill Miller
- 13 Kameron Conrad
- 14 Brenda Moore
- 15 Phil Fitzgerald, Gary Hinkle
- 17 Julie Peacock, Emily Elrod
- 18 Tim Swaim
- 19 Charlotte Hall, Lee Koontz, Glen Morgan, Josh Hartley
- 21 Meredith McDaniel, Morgan McDaniel, Courtney Swartz
- 23 Roger Black
- 25 Tim Swicegood
- 26 Holly Ferree
- 27 Paul Edwards, Wesley Sink
- 28 Cam Clark, Briana Sanders, Ian Shively
- 29 Jacob Edwards, Davy Owens, Lauren Chamberland
- 30 Sierra White
- 31 Evan Ayers, Alyssa James, Caleb Starbuck

ATTENDANCE & STEWARDSHIP

November 26, 2023

8:30 Worship: 212 9:45 Worship: 357 11:00 Worship: 33 Total Weekend Worship: 602 Sunday Small Groups: 180 General Offering: \$18,805.87

FLC Offering: \$1,725.00 Youth Breakfast (11.29): 99

December 3, 2023

8:30 Worship: 198 10:00 Worship: 278

Total Weekend Worship: 476

Christmas Cantata

General Offering: \$10,419.00

FLC Offering: \$1,380.00 Youth Breakfast (12.6): 104

December 10, 2023

8:30 Worship: 150 9:45 Worship: 403 11:00 Worship: 23 Total Weekend Worship: 576 Kids Christmas Program General Offering: \$11,134.48 FLC Offering: \$950.00 Youth Breakfast (12.13): 99

December 17, 2023

8:30 Worship: 191 9:45 Worship: 291 11:00 Worship: 40 Total Weekend Worship: 522 Sunday Small Groups: General Offering: \$28,513.78 FLC Offering: \$2,100.00 Youth Breakfast (12.20): 88

December 24, 2023

8:30 Worship: 215 9:45 Worship: 335 11:00 Worship: 30 Total Weekend Worship: 580

General Offering: \$20,724.50 FLC Offering: \$8,080.00

Christmas Eve Services

680

Christmas Morning Service

7.9

Memorials & Donations

- -- Given to Mt. Pleasant Church in Honor of Allison Sink by Larry & Sharon Sink
- -- Given to Mt. Pleasant Church in Memory of Bo Terry by Gary Hilton
- -- Given to the Family Life Center in Memory of Bo Terry by Shirley Johnson
- -- Given to the Cemetery Fund in Memory of Bo Terry by Lee & Janie Penry
- -- Given to Mt. Pleasant Church in Memory of Bo Terry by Timmy & Jill Hege

SERVING THE CHURCH IN JANUARY 2024

Ushers:

January 7: Adam Buckner & Joe Hayworth

January 14: Greg Moore & Bryan Bray

January 21: Ronnie Russell & Gary Hilton

January 28: Gary Craven & Tim Starbuck

Greeters: 8:30AM 9:45AM 11:00AM

January 7: Doug & Gail Aderhold

January 14: Wendy Harper

January 21: Karen & Stan Bowen

January 28: Len & Terrie Blevins

Joanne Baughn & Ester Skiff John & Kathy Butt

Danny & Denise Roberts Greg Moore

Ronnie & Dot Russell The Shufelt Family

Chet & Lorrie Varner Doris & Patsv

Info Center: 8:15 - 9:45AM 9:30 - 11:00AM

January 7: Jay & Stephanie Payne

January 14: Sharon Payne

January 21: ______

January 28: Bill Baughn & Jane Mendenhall

Adam & Sammie Jo Prior Keith & Paula Knolmayer

Bo & Jescena Sink

Dianne Reid

FLC / Sanctuary Greeter: 8:15 - 9:45AM 9:30 - 11:00AM

January 7: Gayle Mabe

January 14: Jeff & Shelby Smith

January 21: Gail Aderhold

January 28: Sandy Ellis

Danny & Denise Roberts

Lee Koontz

Andy & Tamara Plummer

John & Kathy Butt

Coffee Bar: 8:15 - 9:45AM 9:30 - 11:00AM

January 7: Debra Casselbury

January 14: Ryan & Allison Martin

January 21: _____

January 28: Emily Campbell

Pam D. Hall

Casey Miller & Beth Meyer

David & Lauren Rathbone

Ashley Craven

Parking Lot: 8:15 - 9:45AM 9:30 - 11:00AM

Jeff & Rebecca Tussey January 7: ______

January 14: Randy Wilhoit

January 21: _____ January 28: ______

Youth Greeters: 9:30 - 9:45AM

January 7: Katelyn Brann & Brayden Varner

January 14: Peyton McDevitt & Cooper Clontz

January 21: Brady Coons & Allison Sink

January 28: Reagan Clontz & Ellie Kiger



KIDS KLUB SERVERS - JANUARY 2024

Nursery: 8:30AM	9	:45AM	11:00AM
January 7: Macie & Bry	ce Garlicks,	Charla W., Macie & Bryce Tri	cia Anderson
January 14: Jescena & A	Allison Sink Kim, Lau	ra, Caitlin & Maddie Jer	nnifer Driggers
January 21: Julie M. &	Jane P. Emily, Be	eth & Rachel Co	urtney Lake
January 28: Wendy H. 8	Teresa H. Allison, M	Aitzi & The Wright's Je	nnifer Driggers

2 Year Old:3 Year Old:4 Year Old:January 7: Cameron & Katie KoontzMelissa Swaney & Alura TrailThe Hedrick's & Alex PhillipsJanuary 14: Amy J., Zhoe & BellaMae H., Taylor H. & Valerie N.Megan W., Morgan M. & Allison H.January 21: Micah & Jessica MooreTiffany W. & Tammy V.Janet & Spence WoodJanuary 28: Amy & Samuel NifongMichael & Amber BridgesChad & Courtney Fritts

Kindergarten:1st Grade:2nd Grade:January 7:Laura C. & Courtney B.Tiffany BristerEileen SloanJanuary 14:Jill M., Lucas & Mary KateThe Hiatt'sDianne ReidJanuary 21:Misty Carr & Victoria M.Tess R. & Whitney W.Jane MendenhallJanuary 28:Keith & Paula KnolmayerJosh & Heather BeasleyTina Grubbs

11:00AM:

3rd Grade:4th Grade:January 7: Sidnee BrunerJenny HageeJanuary 14: Bob & Jeanette BeckAmy McDevittJanuary 21: Misty PetreeJenny HageeJanuary 28: Erica MartinAmy McDevittDecember 31:

Children's Church:

8:30AM:

January 7: Diana Payne	Jeff & Shelby Smith & Leandra Glance
January 14: Christina Turner	Cindy Buckner & The Rathbone's
January 21: Chad & Caite McGuire	Amy Johnson & Julie Butt
January 28: Lisa Lane	Mike & Kristin Hagee



Meal is \$6 Per Person / \$20 Per Family Kids 6 and under eat free.

ADULT BIBLE STUDIES

Introduction to the Gospels - led by Eric Hilton

Have you ever wondered why there are 4 gospels? Why only four, why are they different and how are they the same? This study will be an overview of what the similarities and differences of the gospels can tell us. Each writer had a purpose and a message. There will be some history of how the gospels came to be. We will look at recorded events that are found in all four gospels and accounts that are only in one or two of the books. The goal is to give you a basis to navigate your own study with more confidence in navigating the life of Jesus as told by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

• BodyBuilding - led by Terrie Blevins

Let's get in shape for the new year. No workout clothes or equipment needed. During Family Night, we will offer all three courses of the Body Building Series.

Body Building 101 (January 10 & 17) The Shape of Mt Pleasant is a two week course that explains our Bible foundations and organizational structure.

Body Building 201 (January 24 – 31) Getting and Staying in Shape is also a two week course which covers the basic spiritual disciplines of Worship, Bible Study Fellowship, Prayer, Witnessing, and Giving.

Body Building 301 (February 7 - 28) SHAPE'd to Serve is a four week course the looks at how we are all uniquely shaped by God to do His work through our Spiritual Gifts, Heart (or Passion), Abilities, Personality, and Experiences.

This series is great if you are new to Mt Pleasant or if you have been coming for decades. Each is a stand-alone course. Feel free to jump in for just one or two – or for all three. If you have taken one or two of the courses previously, you are welcome to join us for the other(s).

• Hebrews: The Nearness of King Jesus by Lisa Harper - led by Megan Williams & Eileen Sloan

The Book of Hebrews is a rich, dense section of Scripture that can intimidate the most scholarly biblical student. But Lisa Harper makes digging into Hebrews fun and doable, as only she can, without losing an ounce of depth. Hebrews was a sermon for a specific people and culture in the midst of martyrdom and persecution, but is also so relevant for us today, reminding us to continue walking toward Jesus regardless of our culture or our circumstances. Join Lisa as she journeys through this bridge between the Old and New Testaments to get to the heart of the matter.





Throughout the Bible the idea of light is seen over and over. It represents life, joy and most importantly the presence of Jesus.

In fact, He is the light of the world! This year at Mt. Pleasant we will continue to experience life, joy and the presence of Jesus as we share the unfailing love of Jesus with our friends with special needs.



AT MT. PLĚASANT CHURCH

Doors open at: 6:00pm







To Register & for more information:

www.mtpleasant.church



JANUARY EVENTS

Tuesday's	Prayer Group Meeting	10 AM	
Tuesday's	Homeschool Co-op	8:30 - 11:30 AM	
Tuesday's	Choir Practice - Starting back January 16	6:45 PM	
Wednesday's	Youth Breakfast & Devotion	7 AM	
Wednesday's	MTP Connect	MA 8	
Wednesday's	Family Night Meal & Bible Study - Starting January 10	5:30 - 7:30 PM	
Thursday's	Homeschool Co-op	8:30 - 11:30 AM	
Thursday's	Pickleball	6 - 8 PM	
Thursday, January 4	Connection Group Lunch	11:30 AM	
Thursday, January 4	Homeschool Orientation	6:30 PM	
Friday, January 5	Men's Bible Study	5:30 AM	
Sunday, January 7	Youth & Parent Meeting	5:30 - 7:30 PM	
Sunday, January 14	MTP Men's Breakfast Meeting	7 AM	
Sunday, January 14	Red Cross Blood Drive	12 - 4 PM	
Tuesday, January 16	HomeSchool Transcript Workshop	7 PM	
Friday, January 19	Men's Bible Study	5:30 AM	
Sunday, January 21	Lunch with the Pastors	12 PM	
Monday, January 22	MTP Women's Meeting	6:30 PM	
Thursday, January 25	Coffee with Starbuck	10 AM	
Sunday, January 28	Administrative Council Meeting	3 PM	

STAFF

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OUR MISSION

To Boldly Share The Unfailing Love of Jesus

OUR VISION

To Turn Our Community
Upside Down for Jesus Christ

OUR VALUES

Authority of Scripture
Authentic Relationships
Obedient Surrender
Expectant Hearts

NEXT STEPS

Worship - Grow - Serve - Connect